



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Columbia River Fisheries Program Office
1211 SE Cardinal Court, Suite 100
Vancouver, Washington 98683



August 25, 2005

Leslie Schaeffer
Protected Resources Division
NOAA Fisheries
1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97232

Dear Ms. Schaeffer,

The Columbia River Fisheries Program Office (CRFPO), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, presently holds three scientific research permits under section 10 of the Endangered Species Act. Permit 1338 authorizes the capture, handle, mark, and release of CR chum salmon, LCR chinook salmon, and LCR steelhead in conducting work focused on chum salmon in Hamilton Springs, Hardy Creek, and the lower Columbia River. Permit 1421 authorizes the capture, handle, mark, stomach sample, and release of four chinook salmon ESUs, four steelhead ESUs, CR chum salmon, and SR sockeye salmon in conducting fish studies at Franz Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Permit 1487 authorizes the capture, handle, and release of LCR chinook salmon, CR chum salmon, and LCR steelhead in conducting studies focused on lamprey in Cedar Creek, Clark County, Washington.

With the recent listing of LCR coho salmon as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, the CRFPO is requesting the following modifications to each of the three permits to allow take of LCR coho salmon.

- Permit 1338--capture, handle, mark, and release of 15,000 juvenile LCR coho salmon (150 unintentional mortalities) and 400 adults (4 unintentional mortalities)
- Permit 1421--capture, handle, mark, stomach sample, and release of 2,100 juvenile LCR coho salmon (21 unintentional mortalities) and 10 adults (0 unintentional mortality)
- Permit 1487--capture, handle, and release of 30,000 juvenile LCR coho salmon (300 unintentional mortalities) and 100 adults (1 unintentional mortality)

The CRFPO is not requesting any change to the locations and methods of take authorized by each permit, or to take of other listed ESUs. In addition to including LCR coho salmon, the CRFPO is requesting that Howard Schaller appear as the holder of each permit, and that our office's new address be included (see letterhead above). Also, correspondence concerning the permits should be emailed to Timothy Whitesel (Timothy_Whitesel@fws.gov). Please contact

me at 360 604-2528 if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Samuel C. Lohr
Fisheries Biologist